

# Berkshire Charters

By G. B. GRUNDY, M.A., D.Litt.

(Continued from p. 80, Vol. xxviii, No. 1.)

## ABBREVIATIONS.

AS., Anglo-Saxon; B. (with a number), number of Charter in Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum*; K. (with a number), number of charter in Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus*; By., Boundary; TA., Tithe Award; p.n., personal name; Pl.N., Place Name; fur., furlong.

## A CHARTER OF THE REST OF THE LANDS AT COMPTON BEAUCHAMP.

B. 908 K. 1172 is a charter whereby King Edward grants to his thegn Aelfheah 8 hides at *Cumtune* at the reputed date A.D. 955. *Cumtune* is described in the charter as being 'juxta montem qui vocatur *Aescsedune*.' This description is important for the locating of Ashdown, the scene of Alfred's great battle.<sup>8</sup>

This grant is represented by that part of Compton parish which is not included in the Hardwell grant. One peculiarly interesting landmark occurs last in order, namely *Welandes Smidtha*, that remarkable and well-known tumulus now known as Wayland Smith's Cave, which stands a few yards N. of the Ridgeway.

## SURVEY.

The survey is certainly of the Saxon age, and may be of the reputed date of the charter.

1. *Aerest of Hricg Wege on thaet wide Geat*: 'First from the Ridgeway to the wide Geat.' The By. starts where the W. By. of Compton crosses the Ridgeway. The Wide Gate must have been a gate on the W. By. where some local track passed the By. into the neighbouring land-unit of Ashbury.

2. *Of etc. on Aethelmas Hlinc*: 'From the Wide Gate to Aethelm's Lynch.' The lynch must have been towards the top of the slope of the down, probably where the By. makes a bend N.E. on the 600 ft. contour.

3. *Of etc. on Icen hilde Weg*: 'From Aethelm's Lynch to Icknield Way.' This is the Portway to the W. of Compton Beauchamp.

<sup>8</sup> See notes on Ashbury published in the first series of charters published in this Journal.

4. *Of etc. on Bican Dic* : 'From Icknield Way to Bica's Dyke.' The dyke exists at the present day running down from the Icknield Way through the belt of wood on the W. By. of the parish.

5. *Of etc. in on Swyn Broc* : 'From Bica's Dyke to Swine Brook.' This is the Swine Brook of the Hardwell charter, but at its headwaters on the W. By. of the parish near Compton Marsh Farm (OM1).

6. *Of etc. on thone Bradan Thorn be westan Mere* : 'From Swine Brook to the Spreading Thorntree (to the west of the Pond? or by the West Pond).' The thorn tree must have been at the N.W. corner of the parish on the railway.

7. *Of etc. on tha Readan Dic* : 'From the Thorntree to the Red Dyke.' The only clue to the position of the Red Dyke is the fact that it corresponds probably to the North Long Dyke of the Uffington charter, B. 687, K. 1129. It ran probably along the By. where the railway runs now.

8. *Andlang thaere Dic on Hildes Blaew* : 'Along the Dyke to Hild's Low (tumulus).' This barrow was probably on the high ground through which the railway runs W. of Knighton Copse (OM6).

9. *Of etc. on Blaec Pytt* : 'From Hild's Low to Black Pit.' This pit must have been at the N.E. corner of the parish.

10. *Of etc. and langes thaere Westran Risc Raewe innan Swynbroc* : 'From Black Pit along the more westerly Row of Rushes to Swine Brook.' The By. now turns S. to the Swine Brook; and the row of rushes suggests a connection with the Rush Slade's Corner of the Hardwell charter.

11. *Of etc. on Read . . .* : 'From Swine Brook to Red . . .' There is obviously some word omitted here. This must be the Red Slope of the Hardwell By., on the Swine Brook at the point where there is a little copse on that stream.

12. *Of Read . . . on Hwittuces Hlaew on Icenhilde Weg* : 'From Red . . . to Whittuc's Low (tumulus) to Icknield Way.' The tumulus must have been near the point where the By. crossed the Icknield Way, i.e. at the N.W. angle of Hardwell Wood (OM6).

13. *Of etc. on Maeres Crundel* : 'From Icknield Way to the Stonepit on the Boundary.' *Crundel* is a word meaning

usually a stonepit or quarry, but one of elongated shape such as developed from digging stone on balks and other boundaries of lands. Hence it may be applied to any elongated narrow depression, such as a steep-sided stream valley or dell of no great depth. Here it seems to be applied to the western ditch of Hardwell Camp (OM1), the *Telles Burh* of the Hardwell charter.

14. *Of etc. on Dinra Beorh*: 'From the Stonepit of the Boundary to Coin Barrow.' This must have been a barrow where coins had been found. It must have been on the summit of the down, somewhere S. of Hardwell Castle (OM1).

15. *Of etc. on Hricg Weg*: 'From Coin Barrow to the Ridgeway.' This was at the point of the Ridgeway where Hardwell Barn stands (OM1).

16. *Of etc. on Fearn Hylles Slaed*: 'From the Ridgeway to Fern Hill Slade.' This is the Fern Hill Slade of the Hardwell charter, and is the valley or hollow E. and S. of Pingoose Covert (OM6).

17. *Of etc. to Haesl Hylle suthe weardre*: 'From Fern Hill Slade to the south side of the Hill where the Hazels grow.' Hazel Hill was on one side or the other of the hollow of the slade, and Fern Hill no doubt on the other. At this point, somewhere just S. of Pingoose Covert (OM6) the By. turns W. Thus the S. end of the present parish of Compton does not appear to be included in the grant. The grant seems in fact to have extended as far S. as the Hardwell grant, but no further.

18. *Of etc. west on thone Grenan Weg*: 'From Hazel Hill west to the Green Way.' The minor tracks on the downs have no doubt altered greatly, and the Green Way does not appear to be represented by a modern track.

19. *Andlang Weges to thaere Gedrifonan Furh*: 'Along the Way to the Furrow which has been driven.' I am inclined to think that is not like the usual *furh*, a furrow of ploughland, but one driven through the down for the express purpose of marking the land-boundary. It must have run up the W. By. S. of the Ridgeway.

20. *Andlang Furh oth hit cmyth on th' Wide Geat be eastan Welandes Smidthan*: 'Along the Furrow till it comes to the Wide Gate to the east of Weland's Smithy.' For the Wide Gate see 1. The smithy is now Wayland Smith's cave (OM1).

## FIELD NAMES.

Pig Marsh : Near Compton Marsh Farm. (OM1).

Breach : Land broken up by the plough. Occurs eleven times on the higher land at the N. end of the parish.

Clavery Knowl : 10 chains E. of Knighton Copse (OM6). The first part of the name is derived from 'claver,' a dialectical form of the word 'clover.'

Ham Plash : On E. By. of parish immed. N.W. of Cowlease Farm. (OM1). A plash is a place where a road crosses a shallow stream. Ham is probably AS. *hamm*, 'enclosure.'

The Todhams : S. of the Swine Brook in the angle between it and Hay Hill Brook. 'Tod' is probably the dialectical 'tod,' a stake of a hurdle. Hams are 'enclosures.'

The field names show the mead of the land-unit to have been immed. E. of Compton Marsh.

The Little Sling : The Middle Sling : Immed. N. of Knighton village. A sling is a long, narrow piece of ground, very often a strip by a roadside.

Rickbarton Copse : The Home Copse of OM6. 'Stackyard.'

Pingoose Covert : S. part of parish. (OM6). A pen for geese.

## CUMNOR.

Cumnor is a very large parish lying on the Berkshire side of the Thames to the W. and S.W. of Oxford. Unfortunately there does not survive any charter which gives the By. of the present parish, or of any area included in it. Eaton, which was formerly a part of Cumnor, has its charter, to which the name Cumnor is attached; but it is now a part of the parish of Appleton. But there are various references to Cumnor in the AS. documents, for it was an important centre of the Abingdon property.

In B. 366, K. 1029, a document of A.D. 821, it is mentioned under the name of *Cumenora* or *Cumanora* among the lands of Abingdon Abbey. In B. 680, K. 1104, a document of A.D. 931, is recorded a grant made by King Aethelstan to the church at Abingdon of lands at *Swynford* in *Cumanora*, i.e. at the hamlet near Eynsham Bridge. This grant is of 5 hides.

The fact of this grant having been made is also implied in the charter in the Abingdon Cartulary, vol. I, p. 270, of A.D. 968.

It says: '*Uitham* (Wytham), *Seouecourt* (Seacourt), *Henste-seie* (Hinksey), *Eatun* (Eaton) were however members of *Cumenora* in the times of Edgar, king of England, having 25 Hides: now in truth Hinksey is a member of *Bertun* (Barton by Abingdon); Wytham and Seacourt have been granted to soldiers; and Eaton entirely taken away.' There is another supposed reference to Cumnor in K. 1283. This is a charter of Wootton, and the reference points clearly to the wood now known as Stone's Coppice (OM6) on the top of Boar's Hill near Oxford. It is there called *Colmenora*. This is outside the Cumnor By., and it was so at the time of the Wootton charter. It is evidently the wood *Colmonora* mentioned in B. 844. Prof. Skeat (Berks Pl. N.) assumes that *Cumenora* or *Cumanore*, and *Colmenora* or *Colmonora*, are one and the same name, and that the latter is the older form. Thus he would explain Cumnor as meaning Colman's Bank or Slope. The document B. 844 is but a fragment, but it contains the following: 'The wood which is called *Aetheleahing*, and another *Colmonora* and *Geatescum*, belong to the 20 hides which I surveyed partly on horseback, partly by boat.' The sentence is interesting in a general sense in that it shows us the method employed in laying down boundaries. Doubtless the grantee followed the boundaries already laid down by his surveyors. But it is evident that the *Colmonora* here mentioned is not the name of the land itself, but of a wood which stood on the 20 hides named in the grant. This is a significant fact as having a bearing on the origin of the name.

It must be noticed that what Prof. Skeat calls the older form of the name is applied in both instances of its use to the wood on Boar's Hill, just outside the Cumnor By., while what he calls the newer form is applied to the village and its lands. Are the names really two forms of the same name? I fancy that they are not; but that *Cumenora* stands for *Cymenes Ora*, a name found in Wittering, Sussex. The slope called *Colmanora* is the N. and N.W. slope of the W. end of Boar's Hill, whereas *Cumenora* is obviously the slope either N. or W. of Cumnor, the better part of 2 miles away from Boar's Hill.

#### FIELD NAMES.

Summerford Meadow: The northernmost field of the parish in the angle between the Thames and the Wytham By.

Swinford : The hamlet at Eynsham Bridge. Though included in Cumnor it was in AS. times a separate land-unit. The old Cumnor was made up of various divisions of this kind, some of which are still in the parish, some, like Seacourt and Eaton, outside it.

Wash Mead : The eyot just N. of Swinford. (OM<sub>1</sub>). Probably named from a sheep-washing place.

Weir Ham : Immed. W. of last. Probably AS. *hamm*, enclosure.

Bear Hill : The large field E. of Swinford. (OM<sub>1</sub>).

Winter Leys : Immed. E. of last.

Devil's Hill : On E. side of the road  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. S. of Swinford.

Stroud Copse : Immed. S. of last.

Stroud Close : On opposite side of road to last. AS. *strod*, marsh or marshy land. Cf. the pl.n. Stroud, Strood, Strudwick.

Liquor Lands Shaw : 3 fur. E. of Stroud Copse.

Farmoor : Hamlet. (OM<sub>1</sub>).

Little Wordy :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N.E. of last.

Queen's Wordy :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S.E. of Farmoor. AS. *worthig*, an outlying homestead of late settlement.

Great Ground : Between the last two. The name occurs at least once in many parishes in Berks. It must have had some technical meaning.

Great Newberry Field : Just S.E. of Queen's Wordy. 'New Enclosure.'

Filchamstead : Hamlet. (OM<sub>1</sub>).  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. N. of Cumnor village. Possibly *Filican Hamstede*, 'Filica's Homestead.' *Hamstede* is a farmsteading with a dwelling attached to it.

Long Ham Bottom :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S.W. of last. 'The valley of the long enclosure.'

Whitley : Name of two farms and two woods in S.W. part of parish. (OM<sub>1</sub>). *Hwit-leah*, 'white lea.'

Baiting Piece : On Thames 3 fur. N. of Bablock Hythe (OM<sub>1</sub>). Was it a field where cattle which were being driven along the Drift way now called The Long Leys were put for the night before or after crossing the ferry at Bablock Hythe?

Great Leys : On S. edge of parish, S. of The Long Leys.

Lammas Hill : Immed. E. of last. Name common in Berks. A field open for pasturage on Lammas Day, Aug. 1.

- Picked Piece : Between Upper Whitley Farm (OM1) and The Long Leys (OM1). It is a triangular field with the usual 'peaked' or acute angle.
- Harflatts Field : Immed. S.E. of Smith Hill Copse (OM6).
- Rochester Close :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N. of Denman's Copse (OM6).
- Smith's Dean : Immed. N.W. of last.
- Shadwell Copse : A little more than 1 m. N. of village.
- Plough Shadwell : Half way between last and village. *Scead Wyll*, 'Shaded Spring,' probably by trees.
- Longmore : Between Shadwell Copse and Longmore Brake (OM6). 'Long Fen.'
- Hid's Brake : Hid's Copse :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N.E. of last.
- Little and Great Hade : E. of last. 'Hade' occurs in Steventon field names, and in E. Hendred, where it is spelt 'Had.' It means either a ridge of land or the headland on which the plough turns.
- Addlecombe : The combe the head of which is just E. of Hid's Copse. Perhaps *Adel-cumb*, 'mud valley.'
- Stanville Field :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S.E. of Dean Court (OM6).

At the time of the T.A. the Oxford road down Cumnor Hill took from the top of the hill downwards a more easterly course than now. The old line branched off from the present about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N.E. of where the road from Cumnor runs into the Faringdon-Oxford road. Its old course is still partly preserved, first in a lane the line of which runs between Chawley Works and Chawley, and then down a field path until the latter makes a sudden bend by Hutchcomb's Farm. From this point it went straight to the bridge at Botley.<sup>9</sup> This old road seems to have been called Green Street.

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<sup>9</sup> The roads out of Oxford :—

Until the making of the turnpikes and the roads under the Black Letter Acts the roads out of Oxford were very different to what they are now. I have been able to discover the following facts :

The Oxford-London road went half-way up Headington Hill, and then turned up Cheney Lane and along the present road through New Headington to the summit of Shotover : then along the green way on the summit of that hill ; and joined the Worcester-London road in Wheatley village.

The Headington and Barton road ran through the grounds of Headington Manor House. It is probable that it came up slantwise from the Old Marston road. It then passed through the lane behind Headington House, and crossed the grounds of Bury Knowle just in front of the house, and so ran on to Barton.

Thus the whole of the present London road from Cheney Lane to where it joins the Worcester-London road at Forest Hill was a new road made

Immediately W. of Hutchcomb's Farm (OM1) is Green Street Common. The name 'street' is interesting, because this is the old line of road which goes on S.W. through Cumnor and Appleton, and is called by the name *straet* in both the Appleton and Bessilsleigh charters.

Radway Field:  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. of Green Street Common. 'Red Way.'

The Red Way was probably the field-path going to N. Hinksey.

Hutchcomb's Farm (OM1): Hutchcomb's Copse: The comb is just E. of the farm.

The Hook: Field just N.E. of above farm. Now part of a big field E. of the farm buildings. 'Field on a slope.'

Botley Hurst: Immed. S.W. of Radway Field. Named after the hamlet. Probably *Bottan Leah*, 'Botta's Lea.'

Chawley: Hamlet. Without old forms of the name it would be unsafe to give any opinion as to its derivation.

Wadley Field: Immed. S.W. of last. The name *Wadleah*, 'Woad Lea,' occurs in the Eaton charter on the By. of Cumnor down the Thames; and Eaton was formerly part of Cumnor. But that *Wadleah* is far from this Wadley Field. But it will be noticed that Cumnor was composed in former times of a series of great leas (leys), the names of which survive in Whitley, Botley, Chawley, and, in the S. of the parish, Rockley and Bradley, the latter being at the time of the T.A. a separate tithing. It is possible therefore that

probably late in the eighteenth century, for in old maps of Headington it is called 'The New Road.'

The Oxford-Wantage road went first along the present Abingdon road and over Boar's Hill through Cotehill to join the present Wantage road near Oakley.

The Oxford-Bessilsleigh road ran up from the ferry at North Hinksey, being represented as far as the top of the hill at the present day by a lane or farm road. It then passed through the valley between Cumnor Hurst and the west end of Boar's Hill, where it is now represented by a green way. After that it is represented by a lane which passes Henwood Farm (OM1), and after crossing the Abingdon-Cumnor road, goes on as a road to Bessilsleigh.

The Oxford-Faringdon road, after going up Cumnor Hill on the line above described, went to Cumnor village, and thence through Eaton and Appleton, Longworth, and Hinton Waldrist to join the present road just short of Buckland. The present road up Cumnor Hill is of recent date, as is also the greater part of the stretch of road from the top of the hill to Bessilsleigh. Beyond that the modern Wantage road may follow an old road or track from Bessilsleigh to Wantage.

An old road from Oxford to Witney almost certainly passed over the ridge of Wytham Hill, though there may have been a summer track along the line of the present road.



Wadley was originally another of these great leys extending all along the S. side of Whitley; and, if so, this Wadley is a descendant of the *Wadleah* of the Eaton charter.

Bousberry Field: In the middle of the triangle formed by the Cumnor-Oxford, the Faringdon-Oxford, and the Cumnor-Abingdon roads.

Rockley Field: S. extension of parish bordering on Bessilsleigh. See the *Aermundeslaeh* (Bessilsleigh) charter where occurs *Hrocan Leah*, 'Rook's Lea.'

Great Bradley Tithing (OM1): S. part of parish bordering on Wootton. *Brad Leah*, 'Broad Lea.'

Henwood Tithing: Included Henwood and the valley between it and Cumnor Hurst.

### DENCHWORTH.

Denchworth is a parish in the Vale of White Horse, about 2½ m. N.N.W. of Wantage. It appears among lands granted in A.D. 815 to Abingdon Monastery by King Cenwulf of Mercia. It is called *Denceswyrthe* in that charter, B. 352, K. 208.

In another charter of A.D. 821 it is again mentioned among the lands of Abingdon (B. 366, K. 214). It is there called *Denicheswurde* and *Deniceswurthe*. The charter B. 833, K. 1157, records a grant of 5 hides at *Dencheswrthe* or *Denecewurthe* by King Eadred to the thegn Wulfric in A.D. 947.

### SURVEY.

The survey is of Saxon date, and may be of the age of the charter.

1. *Aerest on Cillarith the west on Muttic on the Dic on Ordulfes Gemaere to Ceawan Hlaewe*: 'First to Cilla's Small Stream (Childrey Brook) west to the Mouth of the Dyke (?) to the Dyke to Ordulf's Balk to Ceawa's Low (tumulus).' The survey begins at the S.E. angle of the parish. It is true that the extreme S. of the E. By. of the parish is not on *Cilla Rith*, Childrey Brook, for the last three furlongs; but it will be noticed that that part of the By. is a curious wavy line, which clearly indicates that the brook followed that course in former days, and did not make the right-angled turn which it now makes at Moor Barn (OM6) in the East Challow parish. *Muttic* is almost certainly a corruption. The second element

-*tic* may possibly be *dic*, 'dyke'; and the whole may mean 'mouth of the dyke.' Since this was written a number of stream names ending in -*ic* have turned up in Worcester and Somerset charters. *Muttic* may be one of them. Whatever it may be, it is certain that it was on the S. By. of the parish. The *Dic* of the landmark is probably the dyke whose mouth has just been referred to. Ordulf's Balk must have been near the middle of the S. By. of the parish. Ceawa's Low (tumulus), the origin of the name Challow, was also somewhere near the middle of the S. By.

2. *Andlang Dic on Landbroc*: 'Along the Dyke to the Land Brook.' *Landbroc* is a curious name which survives at the present day in that of the Land Brook which forms the whole of the W. By. of Denchworth. As it stands it ought to mean 'the brook which flows through the ploughland.' But I strongly suspect that the name is a popular abbreviation of *Landscearubroc*, 'boundary brook.'

3. *And lang Broces to than Northran Denceswurthe*: 'Along the Brook to North Denchworth.' North Denchworth must be that part of West Hanney parish which lies W. of Childrey Brook, and is the subject of the Lyford (really West Hanney) charter.

4. *Thonne east righte eft to Cillan Rithe*: The survey now traverses the N. By E. from North Denchworth to Childrey Brook. See 1.

5. *Thonne thaer suth thaer we aer onfengen*: 'Then south to where we formerly began.' The survey runs down the E. By. to its starting point.

Note added: *Thone licgath thaer tha threo hida on than northran Denceswurthe undaelede*: 'then there lie there three hides at North Denchworth not divided into lots.' These three hides are now represented by North Denchworth Farm (OM1) in West Hanney, i.e., the part of West Hanney which lies W. of Childrey Brook, which, as appears from the Lyford charter (see West Hanney), was at one time reckoned part of Lyford. At the time this document was drawn up it was evidently part of Denchworth.

The hidage of Denchworth presents some difficulty. In the privilege of Pope Eugenius III., temp. Henry II., 1154-1189, Denchworth is mentioned among the Abingdon lands as con-

sisting of 7 hides. In an earlier document (B. 850) of A.D. 811, Denchworth and Goosey are set down as containing together 30 hides. But in B. 906, K. 1171, a document of A.D. 955, Goosey is said to contain 10 hides. Thus as the charter the boundaries of which have been examined, a charter of A.D. 947, gives the hidage of Denchworth as 8 hides, the two land units contained only 18 hides in the middle of the 10th cent., whereas they contained 30 at the beginning of the 9th. Perhaps the population of the two land-units may have fallen during the Danish wars, or the fiscal hidage, *i.e.*, the hidage as assessed for Danegeld, may have been less than the actual hidage.

#### FIELD NAMES.

Reevey Sax : At the extreme S.W. angle of the parish beside the Land Brook. 'Reeve' is a pen or enclosure for cattle, and 'Reevey' is possibly the 'island of the cattle-pen.' I cannot explain 'Sax.'

The Great Mead : N. of last, between Lower Circourt Farm (OM1) and the Land Brook. The mead is, as usual, near a stream.

The Patch : Between Upper Circourt Farm (OM1) and the railway.

Little and Great Dayleaze : S. of last and of the railway.

Great Picked Mead : E. of last. 'Having an acute angle.'

Hyde Farm : Hyde Ground (OM1) : Refer to the Hyde family which held the lands of Denchworth from before the Conquest to the middle of the 16th cent.

#### DIDCOT.

Didcot is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.S.E. of Abingdon. Its name does not appear in the AS. charters. Its lands are included in the Hagbourne grant. Various landmarks on its By. will be found in the Blewbury, Hagbourne, and Appleford charters.

#### FIELD NAMES.

Malt Furlong :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of the railway station.

Combe Ground : Where the Sewage Works (OM6) are situated.

Shinmore : Just E. of last, just N. of the bend of the road running N.E. from the station. Perhaps AS. *Scin-mor*, 'fair fen.'

Burnbake : Just E. of last. Land burnt for clearing.

Picked Ground : Just E. of last 'Having an acute angle.'

Hadden Ground : Just E. of last. The *Haeth-dun*, 'Heath Hill,' of the charter.

Black Bit : S. of Burnbake above.

The Hook : S. of last on the S.E.By. 'A field on a slope.'

White Leys : E. of Station Road and N. of the Wallingford road.

Starveacre : S. of Shinmore, on the other side of the road.

Inkmore : S. of Lady Grove Farm (OM1).

### DRAYCOTT MOOR.

Draycott Moor or Southmoor is on the Oxford-Faringdon road about 7 m. from Faringdon. It is mentioned in a catalogue of the Abingdon property (Ab. Cart. II, p. 309) as in the Hundred of *Hokkeford*, with the name *Draicote et Mora*, and as containing 10 hides.

#### LOCAL AND FIELD NAMES.

The Old Oxford Road : Passes more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of the village. It is a ridgeway following strictly the watershed between the Ock and the Thames.

Deanfield and Part of the Heath Acres : A field S. of above road on W. By of parish.

West Hayes : 'West Hedges or Enclosures.' On W. By. immed. S. of the Oxford-Faringdon road.

Inmoor : E. By., W. of Courtclose Copse (OM1). Probably means 'The Fen near the village.'

East Race Field : West Race Field : See Kingston Bagpuize. 'Race' means sometimes a small stream.

### DRAYTON.

Drayton is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Abingdon. The name appears in various forms : in B. 1032, K. 1213. *Draituna* and *Draitune*, and *Draitona* : in the Abingdon Cartulary (I, p. 270). *Draegtun* : in K. 1280, *Draeton*.

B. 1032, K. 1213 records the grant in 958 A.D. of 10 hides at Drayton by King Eadwig to the thegn Aedwold.

B. 1058, K. 1228 records the grant of 20 (probably 10) hides at Drayton by King Eadgar to Abingdon Monastery at the reputed date A.D. 960.

K. 1280 records the grant in A.D. 983 of 3 hides at Drayton by King Aethelred to his man Wulfgar.

K. 1284 records the grant of the same 3 hides in A.D. 1000 by King Aethelred to Abingdon.

#### SURVEY OF B. 1032, K. 1213.

1. *Aerest of Englafes Forda on Dythmere*: 'First from Englaf's Ford to Reed Mere (or Pond).' *Dyth* is not given in the dictionaries as a separate word; but there is a compound word *dyththomas* meaning 'papyrus.' *Dythmere* is also mentioned in the Milton charter. It lay on what is now called the Mill Brook W. of Drayton Mill (OM1).

The ford was almost certainly where the bridle road now known as Drayton East Way crosses the same brook close by Sutton Mill (OM1) in the E. corner of the parish.

2. *Thonon on Lacing*: 'Then to Lacing.' This is one of those pre-Celtic stream names ending in *-inge*, the true form of the name being *Lacinge*, which are comparatively common in the old nomenclature of S. England. It is the origin of the name Lockinge. The names Ginge and Wantage have similar origins. The brook here mentioned is the brook which forms now-a-days the S. part of the E. By. of the parish.

3. *Andlang Lacing to Cealc Ford*: 'Along "Lacing" to Chalk Ford.' This ford is mentioned in the Milton charter. It was either at or close to the S.E. corner of the parish.

4. *Thonon on Maer Dic*: 'Then to the Boundary Dyke.' This is the great dyke which forms the long straight S. By. of the parish. In the Ordnance Map it is called Mere Dike, and in the T.A. The Great Mere Ditch.

5. *Andlang Dic on Mydeling*: 'Along the Dyke to Mydelinge.' This name *Mydeling* is very curious and interesting. It will be seen on the map that a stream flows through the parish more or less along the line of the Wilts and Berks canal. On this stream at a point about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  fur. almost due N. of Whitehorne's Barn (OM1) is a field called Middlings; and I have no doubt that it is named from the old name of the stream. Higher

up, considerably S. of this point, the stream crosses the S. By. of the parish at a well marked re-entering angle in the S. By. about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. W. of Drayton Lock (OM1) on the canal. As I have indicated above *Mydeling*, or, more correctly, *Mydelinge*, is almost certainly the name of this stream; in other words the stream name is of the same pre-Celtic type as the *Lacinge* of the previous landmark in the survey; and the present point in the survey is at that re-entering angle on the S. By. of the parish.

6. *Thonon on Wanetinge*: 'Then to (Wantage Brook).' I have given the above interpretation to *Wanetinge* because it is another of those pre-Celtic stream names in *-inge*. B. 1058, K 1228 has a variant form of this landmark: *up of Mydeling with northran Hyrdegraf*, 'up from Mydelinge to the north side of Herdsmen's Grove.' It then goes on: '*that on gerihtanon Waneting*': 'then straight to Waneting.' It is probable that this grove stood S. of the W. part of the S. By. There is a Hulgrove Meadow there just W. of the canal, which suggests the former existence of woodland on the site. The survey then passes on to the stream which forms the W. By. of the parish, which is the *Wanetinge*. This stream rises near Wantage, and is that stream from which the town derives its name. It is mentioned in the Hanney charter.

7. *Andlang Waneting on Oeccene*: 'Along the Wane-tynge to the (river) Ock.' In the N. part of the W. By. the course of the Wanetinge has been altered artificially. But the extreme irregularity of that part of the By. shows that it formerly followed a stream course. The Ock forms for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. the N.W. By. of the parish.

8. *Thonone on tha Ealdan Dic*: 'Then to the Old Dyke.' The Old Dyke runs along the straight N.E. By. from the Ock: divides Sutton Wick from Drayton village, and then follows Drayton East Way to the E. corner of the parish.

9. *Andlang Dic on Englafes Ford*: 'Along the Dyke to Englaf's Ford' (see 1).

#### FIELD NAMES.

Middlings: See 5 of the charter. Hillat Field: Just S.E. of the last. Hillat may be hillett, a hillock. Meer Dyke: See 4 of the charter.

## FARNBOROUGH.

Farnborough is a parish 4 m. S.S.E. of Wantage. Its name appears in various charters as *Ferberga*, *Fernbeorngen*, and *Fearnbeorhg*. There can be no doubt that the proper form of the name was *Fearnbeorh*, 'the Barrow where Ferns grow.' The charter B. 632, K. 343 records the grant in 878 or 916 A.D. by Aethelfled king of Mercia to his thegn Eadric of 10 hides at Farnborough. K. 762 gives the same hidage.

By B. 682, K. 356 it is granted by King Aethelstan to the thegn Alfeah in A.D. 932. It is not mentioned among the lands granted by B. 850 to Abingdon Monastery by King Coenwulf of Mercia in 811 A.D., nor in the list of them (B. 906, K. 1171) restored to Abingdon by King Eadred after the losses in the Danish invasion of Alfred's days, nor again in the list of lands belonging to the abbey in the time of William the Conqueror.

## SURVEY.

This is given in B. 633. It is undoubtedly of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest of Fearnbeorghe west on thone Weg to tham Stanum*: 'First from Fern Barrow west to the Way to the Stones.' The barrow must have stood on the By. at that S.E. angle about  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. E. by S. of the village. The Way to the Stones is probably represented partly at the present day by the bridle road running S.S.W. from that point through White-shute Row (OM6). The stones must have stood at the re-entering angle of the By. at the N.W. corner of Wickslet Copse (OM6) in Catmore parish. The stones were probably 'standing' stones.

2. *Of etc. suth on thone Weg on tha Andheafda*: 'From the Stones south to the Way to the Corner Headland.' From landmark 1 the By. runs due S. for a little more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  m., along a bridle road which comes down S. from the village and bounds Wicklet Copse on the W. This road represents the *Weg*. The Headland must have been where the By. turns S.S.W. away from the copse.

3. *Of etc. on the Hlinc Rewe ut to thaere Dic be northan Stodfaldon*: 'From the Lynch Row (Row of trees on the lynch) out to the Dyke to the north of the Horsefold.' The Hedgerow (to call it by its proper name) on the Lynch, and the Dyke,

must have been on the short stretch of By. running S.S.W. from Wickslet Copse to the southernmost point of the parish; and at that point the Horsefold must have stood.

4. *Thonne forth on tha Dic to Maer Flodan be aestan Lillinglea*: 'Then on to the Dyke to the Great Intermittent Spring of the Boundary to the East of Lilly Lea.' For *Floda* see the notes on the *Flod aet Swinweges Slo* in the Blewbury charter. The word *floda* is only used three times in the Berkshire charters, and in each of the three cases the reference is to one of those great intermittent springs which are so remarkable a phenomenon in the chalkdowns of the S. of England. Two of these Berkshire *floda*'s are in this parish, this *Maerfloda* and a certain *Cytelfloda* on the N. By.<sup>10</sup> The *Maerfloda* still runs at intervals of several years down the S. part of the W. By. of the parish, following the line of the Wantage-Newbury road. *Lillinglea*, or more correctly *Lilling-leah*, was either on or just N. of what the O.M. calls Lilley Copse, but the TA. calls more correctly Lilly Coppice, a wood just over the By. in Brightwalton parish (OM1).

5. *Thonne forth andlang thes Sutheran Weges oth thaet Lange Treow*: 'Then forth along the Southern Way as far as the Tall Tree.' The Southern Way is now the Wantage-Newbury road, which forms for more than a mile the S.W. By. of the parish. The Tall Tree was probably at the point where the road from the S.W. corner of the village joins it.

6. *Thonne forth west on thone Weg ofer Beocumb to tham Stancrundele*: 'Then on west to the Way over Bee

<sup>10</sup> With regard to the intermittent springs at present existent in Farnborough and its neighbourhood, the Rev. B. H. Whitehurst wrote to me some years ago: 'The only bournes and intermittent springs which run now are—(1) The one by the Holt along the valley between Brightwalton and Peasemore. Possibly it may have begun by Tinker's Corner. It ran via Lilly, Holt, etc. (2) The one on the main road between Wantage and Shefford. This possibly began up the valley by Woolly Down, and so on to Combe, which lies north of Farnborough; at any rate, a well sunk at the west of Woolly Down is said to be on the top of the course of this spring. It is certainly a good spring; but I have never seen it running so far up as this, although last year it was running very strongly further down, and did great damage to the road above mentioned. (3) The source of the Pang (Pangbourne) is said to lie between Farnborough and West Ilsley. I imagine that it really began at Penn due north of Farnborough about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile or less, and ran *via* Land's End to West Ilsley, Compton, etc. West Ilsley is the nearest place I have seen it running. The wells sunk along its course are excellent at Penn and Land's End. The former is not used, but is a very good one. The wells sunk along the course of bournes and intermittent springs are always strong and never run dry.'



Combe to the Stone Digging.' This quarry is mentioned in the Brightwalton charter, and is clearly marked as having been at the point which is the N.W. corner of Brightwalton parish and the westernmost corner of Farnborough. At the present day it is represented by a dell very slightly depressed below the ground on either side, along which an almost disused farm track passes. It runs along the N.E. side of Sparrow's Copse (OM6). I have no doubt that the depression above mentioned was formed by digging stone on the balk of the neighbouring ploughland, a very common practice. The track is evidently the *Weg* mentioned. At present it runs along the By, for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. from a point a little more than a furlong S. of Combe Farm (OM1) to the *Stancrundel*; but it may well have continued S. of this along the S.W. edge of Farnborough Copse (OM6) in former days. Bee Combe was one of the two depressions which this part of the By. crosses.

7. *Thonne north on thane Smalan Weg with eastan Broce-nan Beorg to tham Wege thae thaer east lighth*: 'Then north to the Narrow Way to the east of Broken Barrow to the Way which runs east at that point.' The Broken Barrow is recorded in the field name Broken Berry near the N.W. corner of the parish. The By. is described as running N. But here, as in the last landmark, the surveyors have made a mistake in orientation under the impression that this extension of the parish runs out due W., whereas it runs N.W. The first Way mentioned in this landmark is still represented by a track which runs N.E. to the N.W. corner of the parish; and the second Way runs S.E. from that corner. The Broken Barrow was evidently a little E. of this N.W. corner; and the remains of such a barrow are to be seen 1 fur. E. of this point in East Lockinge parish.

8. *Thonne forth on thone Weg to Cytelflodan be westan Mulescumbes thaer the Weges twis ligath*: 'Then forth to the Way to Kettle Intermittent Spring to the west of Mul's Combe where the road forks.' The Way ran down the whole of the N.E. By. of the W. extension of the parish. The *Cytel Floda*, which probably got its name from its boiling up at the time when it flows, was evidently at the re-entering angle of the parish about 3 fur. all but due E. of Combe Farm (OM1). On the OM1 it can be seen that this is at the very head of the

valley of the Pang, which, however, under ordinary circumstances rises many miles further down the valley near Compton. But when this spring runs then there is a stream down this upper part of the valley which is under ordinary circumstances dry. At the present day the *Cytel Floda*, when it flows, seems to rise lower down the valley on the Farnborough By. about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. N.N.E. of Moonlight Barn (OM<sub>1</sub>), where as a fact is a little shallow pond, often dry, which is the *Sceald Mere*, 'shallow pond,' of the next landmark of the charter. *Mulescumb* is the great hollow or combe lying N.W. from the village a long half-mile from it. Just at the re-entering angle above-mentioned a track comes up from the S.W. which is no doubt on the line of the *Weg* which, by crossing the *Weg* coming down the By., formed the road-forks mentioned in the survey.

9. *Thonne forth to Scyldmere*: 'Then on to the Pond of (Crime?).' I am fairly certain that *scyld* should read *sceald*, 'shallow.' It is the *Sceldmere* of the Lockinge charter. It was at the bottom of *Mulescumb*, on the By.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. N.N.E. of Moonlight Barn (OM<sub>1</sub>). The pond is still there, and is probably the place where the intermittent spring formerly known as the *Cytel Floda* bursts forth at the present day.

10. *Thonne forth on tha Furh to Furcombe*: 'Then on to the Furrow to Furrow Combe, (or perhaps) Combe of the Firtrees.' The Furrow probably ran along the straight piece of By. N.E. of the Shallow Pond to the re-entering angle of the By. due N. of the village. *Furcumb* is probably the valley or hollow on the N. By. on the S. edge of The Warren (OM<sub>1</sub>).

11. *Andlanges Furcumbes middeweardes to thaere Dene*: 'Along Fir Combe through the middle of it to the Valley.' The opening of Fir Combe faces E.N.E.; and the combe is a branch of a big valley at the northernmost point of the parish. This valley is the Dean of the charter.

12. *Thonne forth on tha Dene to thaere Wega Gemythan*: 'Then forth to the Dean to the Meeting of the Ways.' The survey now passes S.S.E. down the By. to Land's End (OM<sub>1</sub>), where a number of tracks still meet.

12. *Thonne forth to tham Hwitan Wege to tham Haran Thorman*: 'Then on to the White Way to the Hoar (? Old) Thorntrees.' The White Way is the old road which forms the

E. By. from Land's End to the S.E. corner of the parish for more than a mile.<sup>11</sup>

14. *Thonne of etc. on Fearnbeorhg*: 'Then from the White Way to Fern Barrow.' See 1.

This brings to an end the boundaries of the main part of the parish. There then follows a rather confused and difficult statement of the bounds of a semi-detached part of the parish which lies about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.E. of the main part. Before attempting to deal with the Saxon boundaries I will quote a passage from the letter of the Rev. B. H. Whitehurst to which I have already referred:—

'Poor's Wood, Doctor's Copse (OM6), and Knapps, which adjoin, but are detached from, the parish, and are mixed up with land belonging to the parishes of West Ilsley, Catmore, and Stanmore, belong to the parish of Farnborough. Tithe used to be paid me by the rector of West Ilsley until the Glebe Farm was sold to Lord Wantage, and, of course, that estate continues payment. At one time, according to tradition, it belonged to West Ilsley; but, owing to their refusal to bury a pauper found dead there, Farnborough parish buried him, and claimed the land, which has since belonged to the parish. When this occurred I have no record.'

In the T.A. map of Farnborough this piece of land is noted as part of the parish; but right in the middle of it a small rectangular piece is marked as belonging to West Ilsley.

As to the tradition which Mr. Whitehurst mentions, I am afraid that it must be pronounced a myth. The ownership of this piece of land by Farnborough was not due to any ecclesiastical considerations, but dates probably from the earliest foundation of the Saxon settlement in the place. It was timber land, evidently allotted to Farnborough because the main part of the lands of the community did not contain sufficient timber, i.e. wood of a size suitable for building purposes. A more remarkable instance of such a separate allotment is found in the case of Chilton. The statement of the boundaries of this

<sup>11</sup> This road is one of the most interesting and puzzling of the ancient highways of Berkshire. See *Arch. Journ.*, Vol. XXV, 'Highways of Berkshire,' road 45, p. 138.

detached piece of land is, as I have said, very confused. It runs thus :—

*And se leag be eastan Catmere thaе thaer to gebyraeth :*  
‘And the Lea east of Cat Pond (Catmore) which belongs thereto.’

1. *Th’ on thone Weg thaе ligh to Stanleage :* ‘Then (?) to the Way which runs to Stone Lea.’

2. *Thonne forth syththan suth on thone Stanihtan Weg :*  
‘Then afterwards south to the Stony Way.’

3. *Of Stanmeringa Gemere thonne forth on thone Smalan Weg to tham Fulan Weg se hatte Stific Weg :* From the Boundary of the People of Stanmore then on to the Narrow Way to the Dirty Way which is called the Way of the Clearing.’

4. *Th’ is Catmeringa Gemaere and thes landes to Feorn-beorhgan :* ‘Then (comes) the boundary between the lands of Catmore and that of Farnborough.’

5. *Thonne forth andlang thaе Weges ut on thone Feld :*  
‘Then on along the Way out to the Open Land.’

6. *Thonne ealle that Hangran betweonan tham Wege and tham the to Stanleage ligh gebyriath ealle to Gearnbeorgan*  
‘Then all the Hanging Wood between the Way and the (Way) which runs to Stone Lea belong all to Farnborough.’ This is a good deal of detail considering that this piece of land is of comparatively small area. That the By. goes, as usual, with the hands of the clock is shown by the mention of the Stanmore By. before that of Catmore. By the Stanmore By. is meant that part of the By. which abuts on Bredon, which was then part of Stanmore. (See notes on Bredon.) Also in the Stanmore charter (see Bredon) the *Stific Weg* is mentioned as part of the By. of that land-unit. The Stony Way of 2 must have run down the irregular N. and E. boundaries of this land. There is no way along that line now. The *Stific Weg* of 3 must, I think, be put on the old line of road of which the White Shoot is another part, coming up from the S. along the Bredon By., and forming for a few yards the By. of this piece of Farnborough. The Narrow Way of 3 must have run along the Stanmore (Bredon) By; but no representative of it exists at the present day. The Catmore Boundary of 4 is obviously the S.W. By. of the land towards Catmore parish.

The *Weg ut on thone Feld* is probably a second mention of the right of way going N. to the White Shoot or *Hwit Weg* of the main survey. *Stanleah* of 1 and 6 is probably not a landmark proper, but rather a summary of the extent of the land, implying that it is a Hanging Wood which lies between the *Weg* and on the S.W. By. just mentioned in 4, and the Way which runs to *Stanleah* of 6 which is, I fancy the *Staniht Weg* of the more specific statements of 2 and 3. *Stanleah* lay probably in the northermost corner of Bredon parish and the S.E. angle of this detached Farnborough land.

## FIELD NAMES.

Down Hill : On N. part of E. By. about one-third of a mile from the northernmost point of the parish.

Kiln Furlong : Extreme N.W. corner of parish.

Broken Berry : See *Brocene Beorh* of the charter. Immed. S.E. of last on N. By.

Combe Farm (OM1) : Stands in *Beocumb* of the charter.

Tinker's Corner : More than half-way down the W. By.

Fore Down : On N. By. just E. of the Wantage-Newbury road.

Lower Burnbake : E. of last. One of the field-names which indicates land which has been cleared by burning.

Kingsey Field : W. of village, half-way between it and the Wantage-Newbury road.

Downhurst Mead : 1 fur. N. of W. end of village.

Long Ground : E. of last.

Drove Way : S. of last, just N. of village.

Pack Acre : Just W. of last. As the road which passes through the village from W. to E. was the great ridgeway from Wantage to Reading,<sup>12</sup> this field may have been a place where packhorses were put for the night. The old ridgeways were the main lines of the packhorse trade of the pre-railway period.

Coppenage Road : Runs N.E. from the village. Meaning?<sup>13</sup>

Pudding Yard Furlong : 3 fur. N.E. of village. May possibly be named from Pudding Grass, which is penny royal.

Further Quickset Furlong : Nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile N.E. of village and W. of road.

<sup>12</sup> See Ancient Highways of Berks in Arch. Journal, Vol. XXV, road 44, p. 137.

<sup>13</sup> The name is written indistinctly in the TA. It may be Copperage.

Hen Down Furlong : N.W. of last. Probably AS. *Hean Dun*, 'high down.'

Stearth Furlong : Immed. W. of Land's End (OM1). AS. *Steort*, 'tongue of land.' It probably projected into neighbouring land.

Ashton Free Furlong : On E. By. almost due E. of village.

White Shoot : The land running E. from village. That is also the name of the old road on the E. By. Various of the neighbouring fields are named from this road : White Shoot Coppice, White Shoot Upper Furlong, White Shoot Lower Furlong.

Horse Stile Furlong : On S.E. By. S.E. of village.

Ridgeway Furlong : Just N.W. of last. Named from the ridge-way running through the village. See above.

Wall Mead Crook : N.W. of last. Crook means a turn or bend.

Upper Grove Crook : S.W. of last.

Great Wall Mead : S. of last.

Hawkshead Furlong : On W. By., due S. of the W. end of the village.

Lilly Hill Upper and Lower Furlongs : In S. angle of parish.

#### FRILFORD.

Frilford is a parish on the road from Abingdon to Faringdon, a little more than 3 m. from the former. The charter B. 1170 states that it was part of Marcham. Its By. is given in the Marcham charter B. 1169, 1170, K. 1255, which also includes Tubney. (For survey see Tubney.)

#### FIELD NAME

The Moor : Immed. N.W. of the village, by Appleton Brook. 'Fenny land.'

#### FYFIELD.

Fyfield is a parish on the Oxford-Faringdon road about 8 m. from Oxford. Like most of the parishes W. of it, it extends from the Thames to the Ock, saddled across the ridge which separates the two river basins. From the point of view of Saxon topography it is perhaps the most interesting parish in Berkshire, because so many of the old Saxon names survive in the field names of the present day, or, it would be perhaps more correct to say, of a day but recently past.

The charters which refer to its lands are B. 977, K. 1206, and B. 1221, K. 546. In both the place is called *Fifhide*, and the name points to the fact that the land of the land-unit amounted originally to 5 hides.<sup>14</sup> B. 977, K. 11206, records a grant in A.D. 956 by King Edward to his thegn Aethelnod of 13 hides at *Fifhide*. B. 121, K. 546, records a grant in A.D. 968 by King Eadgar to Abingdon Abbey of 25 hides at *Fifhide*. Some writers have called attention to what they have believed to be the extraordinary increase in the hidage of the grant within a short time. In point of fact, the earlier grant does not include the hamlet and lands of Netherton in the N. part of the parish. The increase from 5 to 13 hides in Fyfield proper would simply mean that more land was settled and cultivated after the first AS. settlers took possession.

#### SURVEY OF B. 977, K. 1206.

1. *Aerest on Ydeles Ige*: 'First on Ydel's Island.' In the other charter this is called *Cyddes Ig*, 'Cydd's Island.' This was on the E. By. of the parish by Appleton Brook, where a stream coming from the direction of Woodhouse Farm (OM1) meets the brook, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.S.E. of the village.

2. *Of etc. andlang Gemaeres to that Teles Wege*: 'From Ydel's Island along the Balk to the Tel's Way.' This was the *Wattesweg* of 9 of the second charter. The form in this charter is probably correct. Cf. *Telesburh* of the Hardwell ((Compton Beauchamp) charter. This way ran along the line of the Abingdon-Faringdon road, which for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  fur. forms part of the E. By. of the parish.

3. *Andlang Weges on Mearan* (read *Maenan*) *Mores Heafod*: 'Along the Way to the Head of the Common Fen.' The Head of the Common Fen is the re-entering angle of the parish

<sup>14</sup> I do not think that anyone who has examined a number of the AS. charters can have much doubt that the original AS. settlement was very carefully organised in respect to the distribution of land. The original land-units were of 10 hides, with exceptional cases of units of 5 hides, whose exceptional character is noted by the occurrence of the name Fyfield (*Fifhide*) in various parts of England. As it was in the first instance a military settlement it was necessary to distribute the fighting-men more or less evenly among the thin British population which survived. Ten of the 10 hide land-units went to make up the Hundred. The allotment of detached patches of timber and mead land to units which did not possess such lands shows also the ordered character of the settlement. No unit would have deliberately sacrificed mead land, the most valuable form of land of the time, to another except under the compulsion of a superior central authority.

where the Abingdon-Faringdon road going W. leaves the E. By. The name *Maene Mor* survived in TA. days in Minmoor Common,  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Woodhouse Farm (OM1). It is noticeable in the charter that land is sometimes mentioned as being 'common' land, *i.e.*, open to all holders in the land-unit alike. This shows that common holding, which must in early AS. times have extended to all save cultivated land, was becoming quite rare, otherwise these obviously exceptional cases would not be emphasised.

4. *Andlang etc. on Eoccene*: 'Along the Head of the Common Fen to (the river) Ock.' The By. runs down to the Ock.

5. *Up mid straeme to Hudes Lade*: 'Up mid stream to Hud's Way.' This was is probably represented by the path which crosses the Ock at the ford  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.W. of Garford.

6. *Of etc. to thaere Scortandic*: 'From Hud's Way to the Short Dyke.' The By. went along the Ock to the Short Dyke, which was evidently the S. part of the W. By, running up from the Ock. N. past the E. end of Stanborough Copse (OM6).

7. *Of etc. on Aelfthrythe Dic*: 'From the Short Dyke to Aelfthryth's Dyke.' The position of this dyke is shown by a cross reference to Aelfthrith's Stone in the Kingston Bagpuize charter. It ran up the E. side of Kingston Bagpuize Park (OM1), and continued N. of the present Oxford-Faringdon road.

8. *Andlang Dic on Holan Broc*: 'Along the Dyke to Hol-low Brook.' This is the brook running in the valley between Fyfield and Netherton past Canal Pond (OM6) to Appleton Brook (OM1). This charter does not include Netherton.

9. *Andlang etc. on Wasan*: 'Along the Hollow Brook to the Ouse (Appleton Brook).' *Wase* is Appleton Brook, which is called in Tithe Awards Osse Ditch. (For *Wase* see Buckland notes.)

10. *Andlang etc. eft to Ydeles Ige*: 'Along the Ouse again to Ydel's Island.' (See 1.)

This survey is certainly of the Saxon age.

#### SURVEY OF B. 1221, K. 546.

This survey is also certainly of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest of Eoccan on Scortan Dic*: 'First from the Ock to the Short Dyke.' (See 4 and 6 of previous charter.)



2. *Of etc. on Aelfthrythe Dic*: 'From the Short Dyke to Aelfthryth's Dyke.' (See 7 of last charter.)

3. *Andlang Dic on thaene Mor*: 'Along the Dyke to the Fen.' The *Mor* or Fen must have been on the low land W. of Marsh Farm (OM1).

4. *Of etc. on tha Ealdan Dic*: 'From the Fen to the Old Dyke.' The Old Dyke ran along the E. side of North Audley Copse down to the Thames.

5. *Of etc. on Temese Streame*: 'From the Dyke to the Thames.' The Thames is the N. By. of the parish.

6. *On th' Rithig*: 'To the Brooklet.' This is a small stream running down the W. side of the large wood now known as Appleton Common (OM1).

7. *Andlang etc. on Wase*: 'Along the Brooklet to the Ouse (Appleton Brook).' See 9 of last charter.

8. *Of etc. on Cyddes Ige*: 'From the Ouse to Cydd's Island.' See 1 and 10 of last charter.

9. *Ofer Rignedune on Wattes Wege*: 'Over Rye Down to Watt's Way.' *Rige Dun* survives in the field name Rye Down Field in the angle of the parish E.S.E. of Woodhouse Farm (OM1). For *Wattes Weg* see 2 of last charter.

10. *Of etc. on Maene More*: 'From the Way to the Common Fen.' See 3 and 4 of last charter.

11. *Of etc. eft on Eoccan*: 'From the Fen again to the Ock.' See 4 of last charter.

#### FIELD NAMES.

The Butts: In middle of N. end of parish about 300 yds. N. of Marsh Farm (OM1). Butts means unusually short strips of ploughland.

Dayland's Gate: On E. By. where the road to Appleton leaves the parish.

Tubworth Common: 3 fur. S. of last.

Tubworth Close: The first element is the same as in the neighbouring name Tubney. Both the Appleton and Marcham (really Tubney and Frilford) charters mention a ford over Appleton Brook at this point called *Tubban Ford*, 'Tubba's Ford.' So this name is an original *Tubbanworth*, 'Tubba's Outlying Farm.' Tubworth Close is next S. of Tubworth Common.

Ham Field: Just S. of the main road between the village and the E. By. *Hamm*, 'enclosure,' or *Ham*, 'house.'

Horseham Common:  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. of village, just E. of the bend of the road running S. 'Enclosure for Horses.'

The Park: On W. By. just N. of the Abingdon-Faringdon road. *Pearruc*, possibly 'an enclosure amid woodland.'

Wide Moor Common: The land immed. S.E. of Woodhouse Farm (OM1). Mentioned in the Marcham charter as *Hwit Mor*, 'White Fen.'

Rye Down Field: E. of last. See *Rigedun* of the charter.

Minmoor Common: About  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Woodhouse Farm (OM1). See *Maene Mor* of the charter.

Fyfield Wick: In S. end of parish. AS. *Wic*, a dairy farm. It lies, like all wicks, near the mead, by the Ock.

### GARFORD.

Garford is a parish in the lowlands of the Vale of White Horse almost due W. of Abingdon, on the road from Oxford to Wantage.

In charter B. 761, K. 1133 it is called in the superscription *Gareford*, and in the body of the document *Aet Garanforda*. Skeat (Pl. N. Berks) takes the name to mean Gara's Ford; but I am inclined to think that the first element is AS. *gara*, a gore, or triangular piece of ploughland, and that the name means 'Ford of the Gore.' In B. 761, K. 1133 it is set down as containing 15 hides, which seems at first sight a rather large hidage for such a small area. But as the hide was probably the amount of land which one pair of oxen could plough in one season, the hides on heavy land were apt to run small. From B. 413, K. 236 it is clear that it was reckoned as being in some sense a part of the neighbouring community of Marcham. At the time of the TA. it was still a hamlet in the parish of Marcham. B. 761, K. 1133 records the grant of its lands in 940 A.D. by King Eadmund to the thegn Wulfric.

### SURVEY.

The survey is of Saxon date.

1. *Of Garanforda and lang Eoccen oth thaet thaer Cilla Rith ut scyt*: 'From the Ford of the Gore along the Ock to where the Cilla Brook enters it, (or) runs out.' Gore Ford

was probably where the Oxford-Wantage road crosses the Ock. The By. went down the Ock to where Childrey Brook (*Cilla Rith*) enters the Ock.

2. *Up andlang Cilla Rithe oth Linfordinga Gemaere*: 'Up along Childrey Brook as far as the Boundary of the people of Lyford.' The By. goes up Childrey Brook to the Lyford By.

3. *Thonan on Wintres Hlaewe*: 'Then to Winter's Low (Tumulus).' This low must have been somewhere near the cross-roads on the W. By. of Garford.

4. *Thaet thonan eft ut on Eoccen*: 'Then on out again to the Ock.' The further course along the Ock needs no explanation.

5. *Thonne andlang Eoccen oth eft on Garanforda*: 'Then along the Ock once again to Gore Ford.' See landmark 4.

#### FIELD NAMES.

Rockshill Meadow: Easternmost field of the parish between Childrey Brook and the Ock. I suspect that this is the corruption of a name in which 'Ock' originally played a part.

Horn Pools: Immed. E. of Blackington Copse (OM6). Horn may be from AS. *hara*, 'hare.' Cf. *Harandun*, 'hare down,' now Horndown. (See the Harwell charter.)

Great Blackington: Due W. of Blackington Copse (OM1). It may possibly be derived from an AS. *aet thaem Blaecan Tun*, for the -ing element in names of this type is sometimes not derived from the AS. patronymic -ing, but from the ending of a weak genitive. If so, it means 'the Black Farm.' I have not been able to discover whether the AS. *blaec* was ever used of land in the same sense the 'black' is, viz., with the meaning 'bad.'

Looseall: S. of last.

The Picked Place: The triangular field W. of the Oxford-Wantage road just before it crosses the Ock. 'Having an acute angle.' Its acute angle is now taken up by school buildings.

The Forbury: E. of village and immed. S.E. of Garford Farm (OM6). AS. *foreburh* means a forecourt or vestibule; and Forbury as applied to lands means land just outside a village or town.

The Ham: 'Enclosure.' Immed. N.E. of Ven Mill (OM<sub>1</sub>) on S. By.

Honey Ham: Immed. N. of last. An enclosure where bees were kept.

Bed Meadow: Between the last and Nor Brook (OM<sub>1</sub>).

Ven Mill: Where the Oxford-Wantage road crosses Childrey Brook. Probably AS. *Fen*, 'marsh.'

Barrow Furlong:  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. due S. of village. Named from the tumulus which stands on it (OM<sub>1</sub>).

Other field names: The Leys, South Mead, The Brake.

Chaldwick's Farm: On W. By. (OM<sub>1</sub>). May be modern personal name. May be AS. *Ceald Wic*, lit. 'Cold Dairy Farm.' The possessive case in a modern local name is sometimes of modern origin, when the old meaning of the name had become forgotten.

### GINGE.

Ginge was a parish about 3 m. E. of Wantage. Its lands are now almost entirely included in the parish of Ardington. The former division between Ginge and Ardington ran from S. to N. along the middle of what is now Ardington parish up to a point about 1 fur. S. of the Wantage road. The Ginge By. then turned due E., and ran to the Hendred By.

The name Ginge, formerly Gainge, is one of that curious group of three place-names ending in -inge, the other two being *Lacing* (Lockinge) and *Wanetinge* (Wantage). Its name is spelt in all sorts of ways in various charters: *Geenge* (B. 155, K. 81), *Gainge* (B. 352, K. 208), *Geinge* and *Gaging* (B. 366, K. 1029), *Gaincg* (B. 906, K. 1171), *Gaing* and *Gainge* (B. 981, K. 1194), *Gainge* (B. 850), *Gaeging* (B. 1047, K. 1221). Probably the whole name is a pre-Celtic stream name. B. 981, K. 1194 is a charter whereby King Eadwig grants to Abingdon Abbey 10 hides at *Gainge*.

### SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest of Lillan Hlaewe Crundele middeweardan to Loddera Beorge*: 'First from the middle of the Quarry (or Chalkpit) of Lilla's Low (tumulus) to Beggars' Barrow.'

2. *Thonne to Grenan Hlince westwardan*: 'Then to the west side of Green Lynch.'

3. *Of etc. to Earnes Dune westwearde*: 'From the Lynch to the west side of Eagle's Down.'

4. *Thonne to Holan Dic eastwearde*: 'Then to the east part of Hollow Dyke.'

5. *Andlang thaere Dic twa furlang north weard*: 'Two furlongs north along the Dyke.'

6. *Thonne east be Heafdan*: 'Then east by the Headland (of a ploughland).'

7. *Twa furlang andlang Fura*: 'Two furlongs along the Furrow.'

8. *Andlang Weter Dene west thaere Deopan Dene*: 'Along Wether Dean west to Deep Dean.'

9. *Of etc. to than Readan Stane*: 'From the Dean to the Red Stone.'

10. *Of etc. eft on Lillan Hlaewe Crundele*: 'From the Stone again to the Quarry of Lilla's Low.'

I have taken the whole survey before attempting to determine the landmarks, because the critical points do not come at the beginning of the survey. But Birch has omitted from the text certain landmarks which do without any doubt belong to the survey. They come in after 7.

7A. *On Lytlan Wil*: 'To the Little Spring.'

7B. *Andlang Wylles on Lacing Broc*: 'Along the Spring to Lockinge Brook.'

7C. *Andlang Broces eft on Gaeing Broc*: 'Along the Brook again to Ginge Brook.'

7D. *Andlang Broces on tha Aewylma*: 'Along the Brook on the (great) Springs.'

7E. *Thanon andlang Hearpathes on Frigedaeges Treow*: 'Then along the Highway to Friday's Tree.'

*Lacing Broc* of 7B is on the E. part of the N. By. immed. W. of the village of West Hendred.

*Gaeing Broc* of 7C is on the N. part of the E. By. It comes down from the S. to join Lockinge Brook on the W. edge of W. Hendred. From these two landmarks it is possible to work backward and then forward.

*Earnes Dun* of 3 must have been near what is called in the OM1 Roundabout Hill, but in the TA. map Ginge Hill. The Hollow Dyke of 4 formed the N. part of the W. By., i.e. it ran from the filter beds on Lockinge Brook to the N.W. corner of Northbrook Wood (OM6). The 'two furlongs' of the charter is, of course, not an accurate measurement of length, though it may be expected to correspond roughly to two modern furlongs. In this case it is more approximate than usual, for the actual distance is 2 fur. 4 yds. The N. By. of the old parish of Ginge went from the N.W. corner of Northbrook Wood (OM6) due E. to the Hendred By. The Headland of 6 must have been on this part of the By., and the Furrow of 7 must have run along it. The Little Spring of 7A must have been where the old Ginge By. met the Hendred By. a furlong N. of Lockinge Brook. 7B shows that *wyll* is used here not only of the spring itself, but also of the small stream flowing from it. This ran S. to Lockinge Brook. 7D takes the By. the whole way up Ginge Brook (OM1) to some springs which are probably represented at the present day by the wells S. of East Ginge (OM1).

The *Herepath* of 7E must have run N. and S., for the turn W. is noted at the next landmark. I think it must have been an ancient trackway, of which the road along the By. S. of East Ginge is a remnant. It probably fell into disuse owing to the construction of turnpike roads across the downs. I suspect that it went down to Land's End (OM1) at the extreme S.E. corner of the old parish, where is the *Wege Gemuth*, 'road meeting,' of the Farnborough charter, and was then continued S. by the *Hwit Weg*, 'white way,' of that charter, a very ancient trackway the line of which is not continuous, though easily traceable at the present day.<sup>15</sup> I suspect that Friday's Tree was at this S.E. corner of the old parish.

The short S. By. of the old parish ran along a valley running W. from Land's End (OM1). This must be the Wether Dean of 8. The down above the valley is still called Wether Down. Deep Dean of 8 is a continuation of the last valley running N.W. In the Farnborough charter it is simply called The Dean. The Red Stone of 9, the Quarry of Lilla's Low of 10, Beggars' Bar-

<sup>15</sup> For this ancient and very interesting road, see 'Highways of Berkshire,' road 45, p. 138 of *Arch. Journ.*, Vol. XXV.

row of 1, and the Green Lynch of 2, were clearly all of them on the W. By. between the angle in the S. part of the By. and Lockinge Brook. So far as I can discover no trace of the Red Stone survives; but it must have been S. of the Ridgway. I suspect that *Lillan Hlaew* stood, like the neighbouring *Cwichelmes Hlaew*, on or near the Ridgway.

The only likely position for *Loddera Beorh* is at Maypole Clump (OM6), which, being on the top of a rounded hill, is a natural site for such a barrow. The clump is on the W. By. about  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. S. of Lockinge Brook. The Green Lynch may have been on the N. Slope of the hill on which the clump stands.

#### FIELD NAMES.

The Moors: On E. By. 'Fenny land.' It is just N. of Lockinge Brook.

Dry Mead: Immed. W. of last.

Piece shooting on Ginge Hill: Immed. S. of Roundabout Hill (OM1). 'Shoot' in such field names means 'run.'

Inwell Barn: Now called Red Barn. About 200 yds. S. of Lockinge Brook. 'In-' in composition implies that the object named is near something. Inwell would be the spring near the house or village.

Camp Piece: E. By. just W. of West Hendred Church.

Ickleton Way: Is the Romanised part of the Icknield Way, where it has been straightened. Here it runs from E. to W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. of Lockinge Brook. For this part of the way see Hendred, Harwell, and Hagbourne.<sup>16</sup>

Mere Piece: On W. By. S. of Ickleton Way. AS. *maere*, 'balk of a ploughland.'

Church Mere: On W. By. W. of East Ginge. See last. 'Mere' is used in field names of an occupation road which developed along the balk of a ploughland.

Acre Ditch: On E. By., just N. of Ickleton Way.

#### GOOSEY.

Goosey is a parish in the Vale of White Horse about half-way between Faringdon and Wantage.

<sup>16</sup> See 'Ancient Highways of Berkshire,' road 3, p. 123, *Arch. Journ.*, Vol. XXV.

The form of the name varies in spelling in various AS. charters; but it is clearly Gos-ig, 'Goose Island.' It is mentioned in the charters B. 906, K. 117: B. 352, K. 208: B. 366, K. 1029: B. 1047, K. 1221. B. 906, K. 1171 is a charter which records the confirmation of certain lands, among which is *Gosige*, to Abbot Aethelwold of Abingdon. It is stated to have been 10 hides.

#### SURVEY.

The survey is given in B. 907. It is of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest on tha Maerdic eastwearde*: 'First to the Boundary Dyke eastward.' This is the dyke forming the S. or S.W. By. of Denchworth. (See Denchworth.)

2. *Th' innan Tealeburnan*: 'Then to Tealebourne.' This is Stutfield Brook. The brook forms the whole W. By. of the parish.

3. *Andlang etc. th' innan Eoccen*: 'Along Tealebourne to the Ock.' The N. By. of the parish is not now the main stream of the Ock. But that stream shows at Goosey Wick Farm (OM1) the remains of a branch of it which formerly went along the N. By. of the parish.

4. *Andlang etc. th' innan tha Merdic*: 'Along the Ock to the Boundary Dyke.' This dyke must have been near Goosey Wick Farm (OM1).

5. *Of etc. th' innan tha Furh*: 'From the Boundary Dyke to the Furrow.' The Furrow was probably along the whole or part of the straight piece of By. which runs S. from the Ock for about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m.

6. *Of etc. th' innan th' Rithig*: 'From the Furrow to the Streamlet.' The *Rithig* is the small brook which runs W. and E. through the N. part of the parish.

7. *Of etc. th' innan Lanbroc*: *Lanbroc* should be *Land-broc*. 'From the Streamlet to the Land Brook.' This brook is still called the Land Brook, and forms the E. By. of the parish. It is mentioned in the Denchworth charter under the same name. It is probably identical with the *Land Score Broc* of the Charney Bassett charter. The last is probably its full name, which means 'the brook of the land boundary.'



8. *Andlang etc. ford (for forth) on butan thone Ham* : 'Along Land Brook on round the House (Hamlet?).' I suspect that *ham* refers to the village of Goosey.

9. *Eft on tha Maerdic eastwearde* : 'Once more to the Boundary Dyke (from its east end?).' See 1.

#### FIELD NAMES.

Millaway : OM1. A farm, lane, and bridge on E. By. Probably the first 'a' represents the 'en' of AS. *Mylenweg*, 'Mill Way.'

The String : Long narrow field on By. running S. from Goosey Wick Farm (OM1).

Lains Mead : In N.W. part of parish  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. W.S.W. of Goosey Wick Farm (OM1). Lains may mean either (1) a division of arable land sown in regular succession to prevent land from becoming exhausted ; (2) an open tract of arable land at the foot of downs.

Hilley Bottom : Immed. S.E. of last.

Great and Little Hide Hams : Two fields just S. of Northmead Lane and W. of the Land Brook (OM1). AS. *hamm*, enclosure. The meaning of 'hide' in field names is not determinable.

Great Honeymans : Great Marlings : W. of last.

Englefield : Field of irregular shape N. of Blackacres Farm (OM1). Probably named from a marked re-entering angle in its By.

The Platt : Between the last and Stutfield Brook. Also the name of a field due E. of Blackacres Farm on the Land Brook. Means a plot of ground. Is quite common in Berks, and always applied to land near a stream.

Picked Mead : Just S. of Blackacres Farm (OM1). 'Having an acute angle.'

Great Ground : Next but one S. of last.

Long Moor Ditches : S. of Millaway Bridge (OM1), between the Land Brook and a backwater.

Honey Ham : S. of Blackacres Bridge by the side of Stutfield Brook. Place where bees were kept.

Madam's Field : Next S. along the brook.

Sheep Leaze : E. of Honey Ham.

Great Fearn : W. of road running N. from village. 'Fern.'

## EAST AND WEST HAGBOURNE.

Hagbourne is the name of two parishes about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. of Wallingford. The villages are just N. of the Wantage-Reading road. The name is derived from that of the large brook, the Hacca's Brook or Hagbourne, of which the AS. forms in the charters are *Haccanburna*, *Haccaburna*, and *Haccebroc*. Some landmarks on the By. of the parishes will be found in the Blewbury and Harwell charters. The charter which refers to the Hagbourne lands is B. 565, K. 1069. By it King Alfred grants to Denewulf certain lands in Wilts and Hants in exchange for 100 hides at Cholsey, Hagbourne, and Basildon. The survey shows that Upton and Didcot are included in the Hagbourne lands.

## SURVEY.

The survey is of Saxon date.

1. *Thonon of Haccebroce on Ealdan Læce*: 'Then from Hacca's Brook to the Old (slow-flowing) Stream.' The survey begins at the easternmost point of East Hagbourne parish where the brook dividing the parish from South Moreton joins the Mill Brook. The survey goes up the Mill Brook, here called the *Eald Lacu*, right along the E. By. of East Hagbourne and West Hagbourne, and also the E. By. of Upton as far as the Wantage road or Portway. For other landmarks on this part of the By. see the Blewbury charter.

2. *Thonon to Tottencumbe ufeweardon*: 'Then uphill to Tota's Combe.' In the Blewbury charter the combe is called *Totancumb*, which is probably the right form of the name. This is now Tadcombe, the combe which the By. ascends after crossing the Portway. One landmark from the Blewbury charter is on this part of the By.

3. *Thonon to Burgilds Treowe*: 'Then to Burgild's Tree.' This must have been somewhere on the S. part of the E. By. of Upton. Two landmarks of the Blewbury charter on this part of the By.

4. *Thonon to Draegeles Baece* (for a note on this name see the Blewbury charter).: 'Then to Draegel's Backbone (or Ridge).' This is the Grim's Dyke (OM1). Whether *Draegel*

is connected with the AS. *draca*, 'dragon,' I cannot say, though I suspect it to be the case.

5. *Thonon andlanges etc. to Gemaer Weige emb Cylda Tun*: 'Then along (Grim's Dyke) to the Boundary Way about Chilton.' The line of Grim's Dyke continues for a furlong along the By. to the S.E. corner of Chilton parish; and then for a third of a mile the modern By. follows a road now known as The Barge Way. This is the *Gemaer Weg*.

6. *Thonon on Flecgas Garan suthewardan*: 'Then to the south side of Flecg's Gore (triangular piece of ploughland).' *Flecgas Gara* occurs in the Harwell charter; and there can be no doubt that it was where the Upton By. coming from the S. meets the Harwell By. near the S.E. corner of Harwell parish. But it is almost certain that in the extant copy of the Hagbourne charter several landmarks have been omitted, for between the *Gemaer Weg* and *Flecgas Gara* the By. makes various marked turns. Still the survey takes singularly few landmarks relative to the area of land enclosed.

7. *Thonon to Widan Geate*: 'Then to the Wide Gate.' I cannot say where this landmark stood, except that it was almost certainly on the W. By. of West Hagbourne. The same remark applies also to the next landmark.

8. *Thonon to Eadulfes Maere*: 'Then to Eadulf's Balk.'

9. *Thonon to Stoccaes Waelle*: 'Then to the Spring of (marked by?) the Stake.' This is not, of course, the spring mentioned in the Blewbury charter, but is connected with the *Stocwylle Broc* which formed part of the By. of the mead of Harwell. The spring was probably that at the westernmost angle of Didcot parish, at Marshland Barn (OM1); and the *Stocwylle Broc* flows N.E. from that point. It is just possible that the spring was that on the W. By. of Didcot a furlong S. of the railway.

10. *Thonon of etc. on Wittan Maere*: 'Then from Stockwell to the boundary of Wittenham.' This is the Long Wittenham By. N. of Didcot parish.

11. *Of etc. on Cyninges Dic*: 'From Wittenham Boundary to King's Dyke.' King is not a surname. It did not become one till after AS. times. This dyke is the same as the *Dic Sticcea* of the Blewbury survey. It ran from the NE. corner of Didcot parish S. towards Hadden Hill (OM1).

12. *Of etc. on Haethbyrg*: 'From King's Dyke to Heath Camp.' In the Blewbury charter Hadden Hill (OM<sub>1</sub>) is *Haeth Dun*. This was probably an old camp on Hadden Hill.

13. *Thonon of etc. on Haccaburnan emb Mortun*: 'Then from Heath Camp to the Hagbourne about Moreton.' This refers to the part of the brook N. of *Hundes Ig*, i.e., the N. branch of the brook, and brings the survey back to its starting point.

#### FIELD NAMES.

East Hagbourne.—Hadden Hill: Field in N.E. corner of the parish. Named from the hill S. of it. See charter.

Marsh Furlong: Now crossed by the railway S. of the bridge by which the line crosses the Didcot-Wallingford road.

Mungewell: Field immed. S. of the point where the Newbury line joins the main line. There is a Mungewell in Oxfordshire; but the origin of the name is uncertain.

Lake Ditch: Just E. of the road which runs parallel to the W. By.,  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. of Park Barn. AS. *lacu*, a slow stream or backwater.

Cosket's Field: In the S.W. corner of the parish. The name is a variant of the name of the neighbouring hamlet of Cascote. The TA. speaks of 'the township of East Hagbourne and the liberty of Coskett.' The name shows, what is apparent in the case of many other field names, that it must not be assumed that, because a name appears in the possessive case, it is a surname. In Cascote the second element is AS. *cot*, cottage. It is probable that the liberty of Cascote ran up the W. side of the parish.

Boot Piece: Just N.E. of Cascote (OM<sub>1</sub>).

Langlands: N. of last. 'Long Lands,' where 'Lands' probably implies arable.

Lack Furlong: Field just N. of village.

Lack Furlong Pill:  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N. of last. Another Lack Furlong is on the E. By. one-third of a mile N. of Hakka's Brook. All these fields are traversed or bordered by streams. 'Lack' seems to be AS. *lacu*, a slow-flowing stream. The 'Pill' is probably the AS. *pyll*, a pool in a river or stream.

Gibber Bush: Just N.W. of Lack Furlong Pill.

Blakelands : Immed. N.E. of village, just N. of the bridge road running E. and then S. Probably 'Black Lands,' meaning bad lands.

Hale : In the angle formed by the above bridge road, E. of the village. The name is originally from AS. *healh*, 'a hollow in a slope.' From the fact that such hollows are frequent on the banks of streams Hale came to be applied to alluvial land by the side of a river.

Seals : On Hakka's Brook, just E. of village. Probably AS. *sealh*, a willow tree, one of the willow tribe.

Rix's Piece : Is in the extreme E. angle of the parish on *Hundes Ig*. Dialectic 'rix,' a rush.

Rod Eyot : The eyot N. of Hagbourne Hill (OM1). The name is common in Berks. Probably an eyot where withy rods were grown.

White Stone Piece : Immed N. of last.

Mead Platt : Immed. S. of Rod Eyot. Platt is common in Berks field names. It seems to imply flat land near a stream.

The Ransom : Touching Hagbourne Mill (OM1) on the S. Perhaps may refer to some exchange of land whereby Hagbourne Mill and the land which is on the Blewbury side of the brook was given to Hagbourne, and Blewbury Mill, which is on the Hagbourne side of the brook, was given to Blewbury.

West Hagbourne.—In the TA. West Hagbourne is spoken of as a hamlet.

Langland's Mere : On the W. By. just N. of the Drift Way (OM6). Probably AS. *Maere*, 'the Balk of the Long Ploughland.' But 'Mere' has come, as in this case, to mean a road which developed along a balk.

North Vearns : On W. By. just S. of the Drift Way (OM6).

South Vearns :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. due S. of last, just N. of the Wantage road. AS. *fearn*, 'fern.'

South Vearns Mere : An accommodation road. See Longlands Mere above.

Langlands Vearns : On W. By. between N. and S. Vearns.

Woolans :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. E.S.E. of N. Vearns.

Gate Piece : N.E. of Down Farm (OM1).

Buncill : Just S. of Down Farm (OM1).

Witney Wergs : E. of last, on E. By. Wergs is derived from AS. *withig*, 'willow'; and refers to the willow hurdles put up round arable land while the crops were still on to prevent the cattle from straying on it. I do not suppose that Witney has anything to do with Witney, Oxon, but is simply AS. *aet thaere Hwitan Ig*, 'White Island.'

Boors Hill : S. of Buncill and S.W. of Witney Wergs.

Six Halfs : S. of last. The 'halfs' are possibly half-strips of ploughland.

Sprawls : S.E. of last.

Shoots Coskett Field : See Coskett in East Hagbourne. Near the re-entering angle of the parish to the N.W. of the village.

Goose Coobs : Just N. of the N.W. corner of the village. 'Coob' means a coop.

Shobwell Piece : On N. By. of the E. extension of the parish, S. of the W. end of East Hagbourne village. Probably AS. *Scobban Wyll*, 'Scobba's Spring.'

Braid Furlong : On S. By. due S. of last. Probably 'broad.'

Middle Blacklands : S. of Wantage road about 1 fur. from W. By.

Wet Syches : On E. By. just S. of the road.

Dry Syches : S. of last. AS. *sica*, ditch or watercourse.

Haulm Furlong : W. of last two. 'Straw stubble.'

Nine Pins : N.W. of last.

The Flatts : N. of last.

St. John's Mere : N.W. of last. For 'Mere' see above.

Candlemas Furlong : Immed. N. of last. Probably refers to some change in the nature of its tenure every Candlemas Day.

Sheep Furrows : On W. By. one-third of a mile S. of the Wantage road. Probably a reference to the *Eald Furh*, 'old furrow,' which (see Harwell charter) formed its By. in the past.

Mere Furlong : On W. By. just S. of last. For 'Mere' see above.

The S. end of the parish is crossed by what is now a little-used road. This is the Icknield Way. It leaves the Wantage road near the railway bridge at Upton station, and goes straight towards Wantage.

Butts below Icknield Way : Just N. of above road. 'Unusually short strips of ploughland.'

Cross Lands : E. of last. Usually lands which run at right angles to neighbouring lands.

Sloven's Bank : E. of last.

### EAST HANNEY.

East Hanney is a parish on the Oxford-Wantage road about 3 m. N. of Wantage. There are two charters relating to its lands. B. 949, K. 1196 records the grant in A.D. 956 of 20 hides of land at Hanney by King Eadwig to his relative Aelric. In the superscription the name appears as *Hanne*, and in the body of the charter as *Hannig*. The second charter is B. 1224, K. 1262, which records the grant in A.D. 968 of the same land by King Eadgar to Abingdon Abbey, the name appearing as *Hannie*, *Hanig*, and *Hannig*. In both these charters surveys are given; and, as their boundaries correspond in fact, though not in every particular actually given, it will be well to take them together, noting the landmarks of the earlier charter by A, and those of the later by B.

### SURVEYS.

Both the surveys are of the Saxon age.

A. 1. *Aerest of thaes Cinges Gemaere on Wanotingc Broc* : 'First from the King's Boundary to Wantage Brook.'

B. 1. *Aerest on tha Ealdan Dic aet thaem Heafod Stoccan* : 'First to the Old Dyke at the Headstocks (stakes marking the headland of a ploughland).'

B. 2. *Andlang Dic on Waneting* : 'Along the Dyke to Wantage (Brook).' It seems fairly certain that the King's Boundary and the Old Dyke are the same landmark; and a comparison with the other landmarks shows that the Old Dyke ran along the S. By. of the parish W. of the Oxford-Wantage road. Wantage Brook or *Wanetinge* is now called Letcombe Brook. It has its source near Wantage.

A. 2. *Andlang streames th' hyt cymth ut on Cyllan Rith* : 'Along stream till it comes out to Cilla's Brook (Childrey Brook).'

B. 3. *Th' andlang streames on thone Readan Maere on Cylle Rithe*: 'Then along stream to the Red Balk to Cilla's Brook.'

B. 4. *Thonne went it thaer est*: 'Then at that point it goes east.' The By. then follows Letcombe Brook, which formed the W. By. of the grant, for that part of East Hanney which lies W. of the brook is not in the grant. (See notes on West Hanney.) The Red Balk<sup>17</sup> must have been somewhere on the brook, perhaps at the point where it joins Childrey Brook. The By. then meets Childrey Brook, the lower course of which must have corresponded in those days with that branch of it now called Nor Brook. It then went east, *i.e.* along *Cillan Rith* or Childrey Brook.

A. 3. *Th' thonne andlang Rithe th' hyt cymth ut on Eoccene*: 'Then along the Brook till it comes out to the Ock.'

B. 5. *Th' andlang streames oth hit scyt on Oeccene*: 'Then along stream till it runs into the Ock.' The survey now reaches the Ock not far from the N.E. corner of the parish.

A. 4. *Thaet andlang Eoccene th' hit cymth to Wulfmaeres Mylne*: 'Then along the Ock till it comes to Wulfmere's Mill.' *Wulfmere* might mean 'pond of the wolves'; but I fancy that it is here a personal name. As the By. turns S. at the next landmark, the mill was evidently where Marcham Mill (OM1) now stands, at the N.E. corner of the parish.

A. 5. *Thaet thon suth on thone Ealdan Broc*: 'Then south to the Old Brook.'

B. 6. *Th' andlang Oeccene oth hit scyt on Ealdan Waeneting*: 'Then along the Ock until it meets Old Wantage Brook.' The brook is the same in both landmarks. If the E. By. of the parish be noticed, it will be seen that the S. part is formed by a brook. This brook leaves the By. at the present day about 1 m. S. of the Ock, and is carried by a straight and obviously artificial channel through the W. part of Drayton parish to the Ock. But if the N. part of this E. By. of Hanney be noticed, it will be seen that it follows a peculiarly irregular line, and that it is in fact carried along the former course of this brook. This brook is then the Old Brook or the Old Waneting of the two

<sup>17</sup> I suspect that *maere* (balk) of the charter may be a miswriting for *mere* (pond).



charters. This brook rises near Grove Farm (OM1) close to the road from Wantage Road Station to Wantage.

A. 6. *Andlang Broces th' hyt cymth to Snoddan Fleote* : 'Along the Brook till it comes to Snodda's (Mere).'

B. 7. *Thonne went it thaer west andlang straemes oth hit scyt on Snoddan Fleot midde weardne* : 'Then it goes west along stream till it runs to the middle of Snodda's (Mere??).' *Fleot* usually means a tidal estuary. It may mean here a shallow piece of water of some size, a mere. Fleet in Hampshire derives its name from a great shallow pond. Here the By. turns W. along the S. By. of the parish at the point where it leaves the brook close to the Berks and Wilts canal. The *Fleot* must have been somewhere near the middle of that S. By.

A. 7. *Of etc. to than Bradan Herpathe* : 'From the (Mere?) to the Broad Highway.'

B. 8. *Thonne went hit th' west on the Heafda th' hit cymth on thone Smalan Weg* : 'Then it goes west to the Headland (of a ploughland) till it comes to the Narrow Way.' This is puzzling. Yet I think that the Narrow Way and the Broad Highway are the same road looked at in different lights by two sets of surveyors. Nor have I much doubt that this road was a forerunner of the present Oxford-Wantage road, the straight line of which shows this part of it to be of modern construction. The old road must have passed up a line some way W. of that of the modern road.

A. 8. *Andlang etc. thaet hit cymth eft to thes Cinges Gemaere* : 'Along the highway till it comes once more to the King's Boundary.' See A. 1.

B. 9. *Th' endlang Weges oth hit gaeth eft on tha Ealdan Dic* : 'Then along the Way till it goes again to the Old Dyke.' See B. 1.

I have not been able to get the field names of East Hanney.

## WEST HANNEY.

West Hanney is a parish in the lowlands of the Vale of White Horse lying N. of the Great Western Railway and W. of the Oxford-Wantage road.

The question as to the original lands of West Hanney presents some difficulty. On reference to the map it will be seen

that a projecting part of the parish on the W. side is cut off from the main part of the parish by Childrey Brook. This piece of land (see notes on Lyford) forms the subject of a grant which is associated with Lyford in the document which records it. It must therefore at the time of the grant have been part of the lands of Lyford. It seems also to have belonged to Denchworth at one time.

A reference to the East Hanney charters shows that what is now Letcombe Brook was the W. By. of the East Hanney grants. Presumably therefore the lands of East Hanney which lie between this brook and the present W. By. of East Hanney must have been originally part of the lands of West Hanney. It may be the case that when the W. extension of West Hanney was transferred to it from Lyford, that part of the West Hanney lands between the present E. By. of the parish and Letcombe Brook was transferred to East Hanney.

#### THE 'LYFORD' CHARTER.

K. 746 is a charter of the reputed date A.D. 1032, which records the grant by King Cnut to the Monastery of St. Martin at Oxford of 2 hides of land, 'parvam ruris particulam quod ab huius patriae incolis *Linford* nuncupatur.'

#### SURVEY.

1. *Aerest of Eoccan east andlang thaere Ealdan Dic on tha Lampyttes*: 'First from the Ock east along the Old Dyke to the Claypits.'

2. *Of etc. est be Gemaere on Byttman Dic*: 'From the Claypits east by the Balk to the Bottom Dyke.'

3. *Of etc. est be gemaere on Cyll Rithe*: 'From the Dyke east by the Balk to Cilla's Brook (Childrey Brook).'

4. *Andlang etc. to Bottan Ige*: 'Along Cilla's Brook to Botta's Island.'

5. *Of etc. be Leofrices Gemaere to Winagares Stapule*: 'From Botta's Island by Leofric's Balk to Winagar's Pole.'

6. *Of etc. to Wihtlufe Hamme westwerdon*: 'From the Pole to the west side of Wihtluf's Croft.'

7. *Eft on Eoccan*: 'Once more to the Ock.' The clue to this survey is landmark 4.